

In the claims:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined, whether or not amended, are presented below.

Please cancel, without prejudice, claims 7 and 11-13

1. **(Currently amended)** Pharmaceutical composition containing a hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein and a biodegradable protein as a carrier, which pharmaceutical composition contains a hedgehog protein at a concentration of 0.1-100 mg/ml and which pharmaceutical composition is buffered in a range between pH 6 and 8 in a buffer comprising arginine or argininium ions at a concentration of 10-500 mmol/l, wherein said biodegradable protein binds the hedgehog protein and releases said protein in a delayed manner.
2. **(Original)** Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, containing soluble collagen as a carrier.
3. **(Original)** Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, containing insoluble, cross-linked collagen.
4. **(Previously presented)** Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in any of claims 1, 2, or 3, wherein said composition further contains a hyaluronic acid or alginate.

5-7. **(Cancelled)**

8. **(Currently amended)** Process for the production of a pharmaceutical composition, wherein a hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein is combined in a therapeutically effective amount with a biodegradable protein as a carrier, which pharmaceutical composition contains a hedgehog protein at a concentration of 0.1-100 mg/ml and which pharmaceutical composition is buffered in a range between pH 6 and 8 in a buffer comprising arginine or argininium ions at a concentration of 10-500 mmol/l, and wherein said biodegradable protein binds the hedgehog protein and releases said protein in a delayed manner.

9. (Withdrawn) Process for the delayed release of a hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein in the human body, wherein the said hedgehog protein is applied locally in the human body in a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claims 1-7.

10-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, wherein said buffer comprises arginine chloride.

15. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, wherein said buffer further comprises potassium phosphate.

Please add the following new claim:

16. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, wherein said buffer comprises 300 mmol/l arginine chloride.